



Record of Action

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

An Advisory Body to the Board of Supervisors

February 24, 2020
5:00 P.M.
30 Muir Road, Martinez

Howdy Goudey, Chair, At-Large, Community Group
Nick Despota, Vice-Chair, Member, District 1
Shoshana Wechsler, Alternate, District 1
Victoria Smith, Member, District 2
Ryan Buckley, Alternate, District 2

John Sierra, Member, District 3
Mike Moore, Alternate, District 3
Wes Sullens, Member, District 4
Travis Curran, Alternate, District 4
Charles Davidson, Member, District 5
Reneé Fernandez-Lipp, Alternate, District 5

Harry Thurston, At-Large, Community Group
Russell Driver, At-Large, Business
Nicholas Snyder, At-Large, Business
Doria Robinson, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Sarah Foster, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Kim Hazard, At-Large, Education

Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

Present: Howdy Goudey, Chair, At-Large, Community Group
Nick Despota, Vice-Chair, Member, District 1
Shoshana Wechsler, Alternate, District 1
Victoria Smith, Member, District 2
John Sierra, Member, District 3
Mike Moore, Alternate, District 3
Charles Davidson, Member, District 5
Reneé Fernandez-Lipp, Alternate, District 5
Harry Thurston, At-Large, Community Group
Sarah Foster, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Nicholas Snyder, At-Large, Business
Kim Hazard, At-Large, Education

Absent: Ryan Buckley, Alternate, District 2
Doria Robinson, At-Large, Environmental Justice
Wes Sullens, Member, District 4
Travis Curran, Alternate, District 4
Russell Driver, At-Large, Business

Staff Present: Demian Hardman, Senior Energy Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development
Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, Dept. of Conservation and Development
Cindy Cortez, Climate Corps Fellow, Dept. of Conservation and Development
Jamar Stamps, Senior Transportation Planner, Dept. of Conservation and Development
Dom Pruett, Field Representative, Supervisor Candace Andersen

Attendees:

1. Call to Order and Introductions

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

There was no Public comment.

4. APPROVE Record of Action for December 9, 2019 meeting.

Nick Despota made a motion to approve the December 9, 2019 meeting minutes, with a correction to Item 9 clarifying that the focus of the item is to change County building codes to require the use of low-carbon concrete..

Motion: Despota Second: Sierra

5. ELECT OFFICERS for the Sustainability Commission for 2020.

The Commission unanimously agreed to postpone the election of officers to its next meeting.

Motion: Foster Second: Davidson

6. ADOPT CALENDAR for 2020.

Nick Despota commented that it is preferable for the calendar to be open later in the year to leave room for change and flexibility.

Motion: Despota Second: Snyder

7. RECEIVE UPDATE on Development of Building Electrification Reach Code.

Demian Hardman, Senior Planner, reported on the process of developing a building electrification reach code in the County. He provided an overview on reach code ordinances that have been adopted by different jurisdictions in the Bay area. The Sustainability Committee has provide direction to DCD staff to move forward with an analysis to adopt a potential reach code ordinance for Contra Costa County. Hardman reported that he would provide a full staff report including cost effectiveness studies for reach codes to the next Committee meeting scheduled for March 27th.

The Commission discussed the significance of adopting a reach code in Contra Costa County and provided resources for cost effectiveness studies to Hardman. Sarah Foster commented that power storage infrastructure would need to be in place before considering an electrification reach code, foreseeing PG&E blackouts.

The Commission discussed options for engaging further on a possible electrification reach code.

8. PROVIDE INPUT to Climate Emergency Resolution.

Jody London provided a report on Climate Emergency resolutions that have been adopted by different jurisdictions. The Commission considered potential measures that could be included in the emergency declaration. These include:

- *Carbon neutrality, net zero goals*
- *Decommission of large industrial facilities*
- *Emergency preparedness strategies*
- *Transition strategies for the phase out of fossil fuels*
- *Environmental justice*
- *Composition of a carbon transition advisory group*
- *Escalating climate emergency to higher levels of government*
- *Reconsider County financial investments*
- *Provide advice to the State on Contra Costa County's needs*
- *Increase County sustainability staff*

Staff expects to present a draft Climate Emergency resolution at the next Sustainability Committee meeting.

9. RECEIVE REPORT on update to the County's Tree Ordinance.

Jamar Stamps provided a report on the County's tree ordinance. The updated ordinance will provide a code that is easier to understand and simplifies the process of tree removal and planting. Stamps described that DCD is in the process of implementing a tree restitution program, where a fee would be paid to plant a tree in another place. Current code regarding trees on private property does not have a mechanism to mitigate tree protection on private property.

Commission members provided input on the draft tree ordinance, particularly ideas for how to use the mitigation fund.

10. RECEIVE UPDATE on Climate Action Plan Goals and Strategies.

Jody London provided an overview of the updated Climate Action Plan goals and strategies. London described the CAP Implementation Plan, intended to be used as a roadmap to implement the measures included in the CAP and to hold County departments accountable for actions to which they have.

11. RECEIVE Reports from Sustainability Commission members and alternates, and PROVIDE DIRECTION as needed.

None.

12. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Coordinator.

Jody London summarized the written report published with the agenda.

13. RECEIVE Report from Sustainability Commission Chair and IDENTIFY TOPICS for next report to Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainability.

Howdy Goudey, Chair, reported on an issue that is coming before the MCE Board, regarding exit fees that PG&E assesses on community choice aggregators (CCAs).

14. The next meeting is currently scheduled for April 27, 2020.

15. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.